



# News Release

## WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Public Affairs Office  
2400 Wright Street  
Madison, WI 53704

Contact: Lt. Col. Tim Donovan  
608-242-3050  
Cell: 608-516-1777

September 14, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Most hurricane relief missions for Task Force Wisconsin completed

### Wisconsin National Guard units begin heading home today

The Wisconsin National Guard task force ordered to support Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in Louisiana has completed its mission to help during the critical crisis management phase of relief operations in and around New Orleans and about 300 troops headed for home today.

The Wisconsin Air Guard's RC-26 aircraft and crew from the 115th Operations Group, Madison, arrived home early this afternoon. The 1157th Transportation Company, Oshkosh, and elements of the 132nd Support Battalion from Janesville, Eau Claire and Waupaca left in convoys this morning. The 64th Rear Operations Center, Monroe, will leave by convoy tomorrow. The task force's command element and the military police and security forces personnel are expected to fly to Madison tomorrow on two flights arriving in the afternoon.

Six members of the 54th Civil Support Team will remain on duty supporting the task force from the Oklahoma National Guard. The Wisconsin Army Guard's helicopter support will continue through the end of September, with two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from Madison and three UH-1 Huey aircraft from West Bend and their crews.

Unit redeployment schedules, with arrival times subject to change, are:

- 1157th Transportation Company — departed Belle Chasse by convoy Wednesday, Sept. 14 at 7:30 a.m. and expected to arrive home in Oshkosh Friday afternoon at about 3:30 p.m.
- Co. A, 132nd Support Battalion — departed Zephyr Field, New Orleans by convoy Wednesday, Sept. 14 at 11:45 a.m. and expected to arrive home in Janesville Friday afternoon at about 3:45 p.m.

— more —

# Hurricane Katrina mission update

Page 2

- 64th Rear Operations Center — expected to depart Belle Chasse by convoy Thursday, Sept. 15 at 7:00 a.m. and arrive home in Monroe at approximately 12:30 p.m. Saturday.
- MPs, Security Forces and Command element — expected to depart Belle Chasse by air aboard two C-130 transport aircraft and arriving in Madison at 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

## Summary of Task Force Wisconsin Operations

**Headquarters, 57th Field Artillery Brigade**, Wisconsin Army National Guard, Milwaukee — Command cell of four soldiers departed Madison at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, for England Airpark, near Alexandria, La. Wisconsin Army National Guard Col. Dominic Cariello is the task force commander. Command cell located at Naval Air Station (NAS) Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, Belle Chasse, La.

*Mission highlights: Provided command and control of 450-troop task force and was liaison between Wisconsin forces and Louisiana National Guard's Task Force Belle Chasse.*

Expected to return to Madison by military airlift Thursday, Sept. 15.

**Detachment 52, Operational Support Airlift Command**, Wisconsin Army National Guard, Madison — two air crewmen and one C-26 aircraft, provided air transportation support to task force units Thursday, Sept. 1, when the command cell was flown to England Airpark, Alexandria, La. Aircraft returned to home station, but flew a number of follow-on support missions to and from Belle Chasse.

**115th Operations Group**, Wisconsin Air National Guard, Madison, four air crewmen and one RC-26 reconnaissance aircraft supporting search and rescue operations for the Louisiana Emergency Management and also has supported New Orleans Police Department and ATF. Operating missions in Gulf region since Thursday, Sept. 1. Aircraft operated from Ellington Field, Houston, Texas.

*Mission highlights: Air Guard RC-26 aircraft operated from Ellington Field, Houston, flying six missions (39.6 flight hours and 13 sorties) in support of Louisiana Emergency Management, New Orleans Police Department and ATF.*

Returned to Truax Field, Madison, Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 14.

**54th Civil Support Team**, Wisconsin National Guard (a joint Army-Air unit), Madison — six soldiers departed Madison Friday morning, Sept. 2. Now supporting Task Force Oklahoma within the city of New Orleans.

— more —

# Hurricane Katrina mission update

Page 3

**128th Air Refueling Wing**, Wisconsin Air National Guard, Milwaukee — three KC-135 aircraft and about a dozen aircrew members. Transported Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard military police forces to Louisiana mid-afternoon on Sept. 2. Served as reception processing center for two chartered airliners transporting displaced Americans from New Orleans and prepared to support future air transportation operations as ordered.

Mission highlights: *Flew 10 missions (28 sorties and 52.7 hours) transporting 247 passengers and nearly 60 short tons of cargo. Also received nearly 180 displaced Americans who were evacuated Sept. 8 from New Orleans to shelter in Milwaukee.*

**32nd Military Police Company**, Wisconsin Army National Guard, headquartered in Milwaukee with a detachment in Madison — 45 soldiers to provide law enforcement support. Departed Truax Field, Madison, on two Wisconsin Air National Guard KC-135 aircraft from Milwaukee's 128th Air Refueling Wing at about 2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, and arrived at NAS New Orleans, Belle Chasse, La., that evening. Eight wheeled vehicles were carried with one of the ground convoys that left Wisconsin Saturday, Sept. 3.

Mission highlights: *32nd Military Police Company (augmented by 128th and 115th Security Forces troops) performed 30 total security missions, including eight base security missions at NAS New Orleans, 21 escort missions and one VIP mission.*

Expected to return to Madison by military airlift Thursday, Sept. 15.

**115th and 128th Security Forces Squadrons**, Wisconsin Air National Guard, Madison and Milwaukee — 13 airmen (nine from Madison and four from Milwaukee) blended with 32nd Military Police Company soldiers and are operating as a single element to provide law enforcement support. Departed Truax Field, Madison, on one Wisconsin Air National Guard KC-135 aircraft from Milwaukee's 128th Air Refueling Wing at about 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, and arrived at NAS New Orleans, Belle Chasse, La., Friday evening, Sept. 2.

Mission highlights: *Wisconsin Air National Guard security forces (augmenting the 32nd Military Police Company) performed 30 total security missions, including eight base security missions at NAS New Orleans, 21 escort missions, and one VIP mission.*

**64th Rear Operations Center (ROC)**, Wisconsin Army National Guard, Monroe — 33 soldiers to provide command and control support. Unit departed Monroe at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, for England Airpark, La. Convoy includes 12 wheeled vehicles and a trailer-mounted 30 kw generator. Located at NAS New Orleans, Belle Chasse, La.

Mission highlights: *Supported the Task Force Wisconsin command cell as command and control staff element at the Joint Operations Center at Belle Chasse.*

— more —

## Hurricane Katrina mission update

Page 4

Expected to depart by convoy Thursday morning and arrive in Monroe Saturday, Sept. 17 shortly after noon.

**832nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance)**, Wisconsin Army National Guard, West Bend — 30 soldiers and three UH-1 Huey helicopters, to provide medical evacuation and/or general aviation support, were prepared to depart at 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 2. Helicopters departed West Bend by air at around 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, and arrived at Hammond, La., by early Saturday evening (original destination of NAS New Orleans changed while aircraft were enroute), then moved forward to NAS New Orleans, Belle Chasse, La., where they have been since Sunday, Sept. 4. The unit's supporting ground equipment (consisting of six trucks) joined the 1157th Transportation Company convoy in the Madison area Saturday, Sept. 3, and arrived at Belle Chasse Tuesday night, Sept. 6. Operations have been flown from the Naval Air Station and mission will continue through end of September.

Mission highlights: *Three UH-1 Hueys have flown more than 168 hours, rescued 132 people (59 of them on hoists). Also rescued 13 pets and transported more than eight tons of supplies.*

**1st Battalion, 147th Aviation**, Wisconsin Army National Guard, Madison — 20 soldiers and two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters to provide general aviation support, prepared to depart since 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 2. Helicopters departed Madison by air at around 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, and arrived at Hammond, La., by early Saturday evening (original destination of England Airpark, La., changed while the aircraft were enroute), then moved forward to NAS New Orleans, Belle Chasse, La., where they have been since Sunday, Sept. 4. The unit's supporting ground equipment (consisting of one fuel tanker, two cargo trucks and one maintenance contact truck) joined the 1157th Transportation Company convoy in the Madison area Saturday, Sept. 3, and arrived at Belle Chasse Tuesday night, Sept. 6. Operations have been flown from the Naval Air Station and the unit's mission will continue through end of September.

Mission highlights: *Two UH-60 Black Hawks have flown 98-plus hours, transported 315 passengers and delivered more than 3 tons of supplies.*

**1157th Transportation Company**, Wisconsin Army National Guard, Oshkosh — 104 soldiers and 60 vehicles. Mission is to provide transportation support. Unit departed Oshkosh by convoy in two elements Saturday morning, Sept. 3. Convoy included 47 5-ton cargo trucks, 10 tractor trailers, two 2-1/2 ton cargo trucks and one wrecker. Convoy arrived at Belle Chasse Sept. 6 and operated from the installation's abandoned airfield.

Mission highlights: *1157th Transportation Company troops 82 vehicles (3,434 miles) transporting 197 passengers and 123 tons of supplies and cargo. Passengers included search and rescue teams.*

Departed by convoy Wednesday, Sept. 14, and expected to arrive in Oshkosh Friday evening.

— more —

## Hurricane Katrina mission update

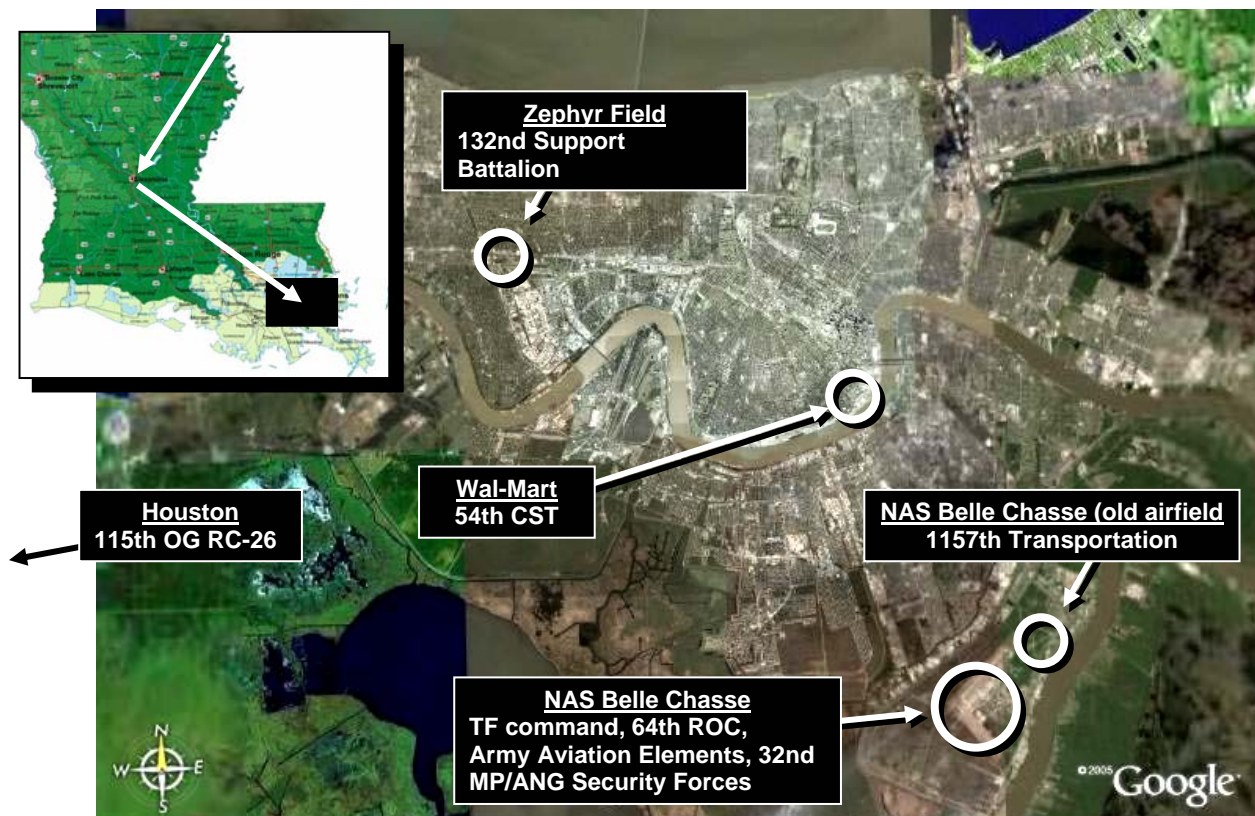
Page 5

**Company A, 132nd Support Battalion**, Army National Guard, headquartered in Janesville with detachments in Eau Claire and Waupaca — 187 soldiers and 68 vehicles (including some personnel and equipment from the battalion's Headquarters Company, Company B and Company C). Mission is to provide transportation support. The unit departed Janesville by convoy in two elements Saturday, Sept. 3. The first element departed at around 8:30 a.m., the second element one hour later at about 9:30 a.m. Convoy included 25 5-ton cargo trucks, 12 tractor trailers, 22 1-1/4 ton cargo trucks, along with other vehicles including fuel tankers, 2-1/2 ton cargo trucks, ambulances, and a wrecker. Convoy arrived at Belle Chasse Sept. 6, but unit eventually moved to Zephyr Field, a minor league ballpark and athletic complex between Metairie and Kenner, La., just west of New Orleans.

Mission highlights: *132nd Support Battalion used 59 vehicles (2,007 miles) transporting 180 passengers and 140 tons of supplies.*

Departed by convoy Wednesday, Sept. 14, and expected to arrive in Oshkosh Friday evening.

# # # #



Current News Releases available at: <http://dma.wi.gov/news.asp>